

# THE INDEPENDENT

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1919

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## BISHOP DARLINGTON TO BE HERE NEXT FRIDAY

Will Deliver Address at Celebration of Ground Breaking for First Methodist M. E. Church Brass Band and Union Choir to Furnish Music

Bishop U. V. W. Darlington of the N. C. Conference will deliver the address at the Ground Breaking Celebration of the First M. E. Church South in this city next Friday, Sept. 26. Hundreds of Methodists from outside the city and adjoining counties are expected to take part in the elaborate ceremonies to be staged on that occasion in commemoration of the breaking of ground for what will be the biggest, handsomest and costliest house of worship in northeastern North Carolina.

In a half page advertisement in this newspaper this week the First Methodist congregation extends an invitation "to all the people" to attend their Ground Breaking Celebration next Friday. "We make this invitation to all the people," says the pastor Rev. J. M. Ormond, "because we purpose to dedicate this church to the service of all the people, regardless of their religious affiliations and regardless, too, whether they have any religious affiliation at all. While building a house of worship peculiarly designed to meet our own congregational and denominational needs, we want this church to stand for something more in the community than the servant of a congregation of a denomination." And in this broad spirit the invitation probably will be received.

The exercises next Friday will be from 4 to 6:30 P. M. and very moment of the two hours will be filled with interesting entertainment. The J. H. Ziegler and of this city has been engaged to furnish instrumental music for the occasion and a choir of upwards of a hundred voices, recruited from all the churches of the city will render instrumental selections. Mayor W. G. Gaither will open the exercises and ministers of all denominations will take part.

Work on the new First Methodist Church is already underway on the big lot corner of Road and Church streets. This building campaign was launched back in 1917 by Rev. J. L. Cunningham, then the pastor of the church and about \$60,000 was then subscribed for the undertaking. Half of this amount has been paid in. The church will cost about \$100,000.

## POTTER GETS SIX MONTHS

Pasquotank Farmer Put Poison On Wild Strawberries

Augustus Potter, a lower Pasquotank store keeper and farmer, was found guilty of putting poison on wild strawberries in his field and sentenced to six months on the county roads, in the Superior Court here yesterday. The case of Potter was up on appeal from the Recorder's court. When the jury came in with verdict yesterday Potter slipped out of the court room. He later put in appearance and took the sentence of the court.

Thus far the Superior Court proceedings have been of minor interest and quite free from unusual incidents, except the above mentioned denouement of the Potter case. It will be recalled that Potter was tried in the local courts in May, and was sentenced to four months on the roads. Appeal was noted by his counsel, and Potter was put under bond for his appearance at Superior Court.

FOR SALE:—One house and lot, Martin street, water and lights. Price \$3000. Desirable location. HARRY M. SEELEY, R. N. DAVIS, 313 Hinton Bldg. c 8 19-1f

## BASEBALL SATURDAY

The Elizabeth City Cubs play a double header here Saturday afternoon with the strong Sloane's team of Norfolk, Va. at the Cubs grounds on West Broad St. The first game will begin at 1:30 P. M. and the last game at 5 P. M.

The games promise to be fast and interesting as Sloane's have a very fast team.

## SOLDIERS REFUSE TO BACK LEAGUE

Tyrrell's Returned Soldiers And Sailors Not Strong For Covenant

By W. O. SAUNDERS

An attempt to poll the soldier and sailor vote of Tyrrell County on the League of Nations resulted in only three votes for the League out of a possible hundred. The soldiers and sailors of Tyrrell were the guests of a Welcome Home celebration at Columbia last Thursday. At a given hour they were assembled in the county Court House to listen to a speech of Welcome. And then and there somebody tried to start enthusiasm for the League of Nations and requested all the soldiers and sailors who favored the League Covenant to stand up. Only three men stood up.

The negative was called for and one man stood up. Out of possibly a hundred men in uniform, all of them carrying their discharge papers, only four voted. The others refused to vote at all.

I tried to get some of those soldiers to tell me why they would not express themselves. One talked. He said: "We are opposed to the League of Nations but we didn't want to hurt any one's feelings. If we had spoken our thoughts we might have offended some one. It wasn't exactly fair to bring a question like that up in such a place anyway."

And that may have been the way the rest of the soldiers and sailors thought about it. I talked to another soldier that night. He said: "I think most of the boys don't understand this League of Nations business. I know that I don't. And I know that I have had all of Europe I want. I am not for anything that involves the United States in European politics and European diplomacy. I am done with Europe and this government will never send me over there again unless they send a piece of me at a time."

The soldiers and sailors are not strong for the League of Nations and have little faith in President Wilson. They will just about show the President what they think of him when they get an opportunity to vote in a real election. They will be on hand with their votes in the next Presidential election.

## GOVERNOR DECLINES PARDON FOR FEREBEE

Says Nothing in The Record To Justify Executive Interference

Finding "nothing in the record that would justify executive interference," Governor Bickett yesterday declined to pardon Silas P. Ferree, of Currituck county, serving three years in the State Prison for murder in the second degree. Ferree, according to the record in the case, shot J. C. Thompson, who was a boarder in the Ferree home, claiming that Thompson insulted Mrs. Ferree, and that he shot in defense of his home. Declining the pardon, Governor Bickett said:

"In this case I find nothing in the record that would justify executive interference. Upon all the evidence the defendant was clearly guilty of murder in the second degree. The provocation under which he committed the crime was a matter for the consideration of the able and humane judge who tried the case and it would be improper for me to interfere with his discretion."

## CLASSY COPS CATCH CARELESS CHUGGERS

Reports from the city Police Department show that a total of 81 arrests were made during the first two weeks of September for speeding alone. Thirty of the August arrests were made for violation of traffic ordinances, and much is being done to break up the rapid travel orgies of the speed fiends, in this city. The appearance of the local police force is much improved by the sporty new uniforms recently purchased.

## Independent Readers Think Likewise

(Cartoon from the Soldiers and Sailors National Weekly News)



President Wilson says that the World is leaning on America.—Headline

AMERICA—SOMEBODY WILL HAVE TO LAY OFF PRETTY SOON.

## CHOWAN COLLEGE WANTS TO MOVE

But The Lucky Town Must Put Up Money To Get It

An effort is to be made to bring Chowan College, the northeastern North Carolina Baptist school for women, to Elizabeth City. This historic institution is at present located at Murfreesboro in Hertford County. The location of the college in its earlier days may have been ideal, but its inaccessibility of late years has retarded the growth of the school and its trustees and managers are convinced that the school must be abandoned or removed to some more attractive location. Ahoskie, Edenton and Elizabeth City have been suggested as possible locations for Chowan College and many in Elizabeth City are anxious to locate the school here. It has even been suggested that the Elizabeth City Hospital and adjoining lands would make an ideal site for the school.

But whatever city or town gets the school will be expected to pay for it. It is freely hinted that the town that puts up the best free site and the biggest cash bonus will get the school. This probably means that Elizabeth City will pass it up. Elizabeth City that wouldn't put up \$20,000 to buy the Elizabeth City Hospital; Elizabeth City that will not put up a few thousand dollars to buy a public play ground and recreation park for its people; Elizabeth City that does not possess such fundamental public enterprises as an auditorium and a public library; Elizabeth City that needs about everything else a public school plant big enough to provide for its own children; Elizabeth City minus so many things that it needs will hardly release any considerable sum of money to bring a denominational school here. What the Baptists of Elizabeth City may do is quite another thing; the Baptists of Elizabeth City are strong numerically, strong financially and they are an enterprising lot.

## SOME MORE FIGURES ON CONCRETE STREETS

Proposed New Paving Plan Provides Streets To Last 25 Years, Says City Manager

Under the proposed concrete street paving plan recommended to the Board of Aldermen by the City Manager, 13 streets will be paved, with a total length of 20,100 feet or about 3.8 miles, with a total yardage of 43,520 square yards. Four of the streets which would be paved under the plan are 18 feet wide, and nine are 20 feet. The work will involve the use of about 15,400 barrels of cement, 4000 cubic yards of sand, and 6820 cubic yards of crushed stone or screened gravel. All concrete streets would be reinforced by wire mesh reinforcement, imbedded in the concrete to prevent cracking. City Manager Simmons estimates that such streets would normally last easily 25 years, without any material expense for upkeep. The cost of the work would be about \$100,000.

## HELL IN ALBEMARLE

A strike of cotton workers at Albemarle, Stanly county, N. C. culminated on Wednesday in the shooting of sheriff G. D. Blalock, and of a striker, Dee Porter, following which three companies of North Carolina Reserve Militia were rushed to the scene to quell the disturbance by force of arms. Six of the strikers were arrested, and there has been no further trouble. Neither of the wounded men is seriously hurt. Porter claims he shot the sheriff in self-defense after having himself been wounded by a bullet from Blalock's revolver.

FOR SALE:—One 28 1-2 acre farm, all cleared land, 6 miles from city. Road now being paved. Price \$2500, a bargain. HARRY M. SEELEY, R. N. DAVIS, 313 Hinton Bldg. c 8 19-1f

## A MAN IN A BOAT BATTLES WITH A BEAR

H. L. Alexander of Columbia Kills Bruin Under Exciting Circumstances

An exciting tale of a battle with a bear in midstream came from Alligator Creek, Tyrrell county. H. L. Alexander of Alligator came upon an enormous black bear while out in a small open boat. He struck at the bear with a pike pole, wounded the animal and aroused his ire. The big bear turned upon the boat and attempted to climb on board.

Mr. Alexander tried to fight the bear off with the pike pole, broke the pole and the bear was about to get the best of it. But there was an axe in the boat and Mr. Alexander got hold of the axe in time to save himself and his small craft. A well directed blow split the skull of the big animal. The carcass weighed several hundred pounds.

## DEAR OLD JIGGS HERE NEXT WEEK

Popular Comic Alive At The Alkrama Theatre, Thursday September 25th

The latest play founded on the popular comics of "Bringing Up Father," the world renowned cartoons created by George McManus, will show at the Alkrama Theatre, Thursday, September 25th. It bears the infectious title of "Bringing Up Father In Society." As might be inferred the theme of the attraction revolves around the efforts of "Jiggs," "Maloney," "Mother," "Dinny," and the rest of the Mahoney clan to break into the charmed circle. In justice to "Jiggs," who is better known as "Father," it may be chronicled right here and now that he is forced to enter "society" against his will. How he fares, how he meets and opposes the best laid plans of his wife, "Mother," how he arouses laughter, mirth and paves the way to gaiety, joy, happiness and gladness uncanonically is entertainingly described in three rollicking and side-splitting acts, each wedded to catchy and original music. The cast is a large and competent one in which a chorus of pretty and vivacious young women predominate.

From all accounts this concoction of mirth, melody, song, novelty, surprise and joy, is the best of the McManus "Father" series which Manager Gus Hill, has offered thus far. Mr. Hill has furnished a large and competent cast which includes a number of recruits from the legitimate and vaudeville stage. The plot revolves around the efforts of "Mother" to butt into the society game. She endeavors to carry "Father" with her. How he eludes her best intentions despite her efforts to make him view the situation through the same rose tinted glasses, forms the nucleus of one of the most amusing stage contributions seen hereabouts in seasons.

## NO EXAGGERATION

I do not make exaggerated statements about my work. Very remarkable results often follow the correction of bad vision by properly fitted glasses. It does not follow that bad eyes are responsible for all ills and that the fitting of eye glasses is a panacea for every ailment. My special claim to your patronage is based upon my long experience coupled with my unusual facilities for testing the vision, grinding the lenses and fitting the glasses on the premises. Upon investigation you will find that I can give the same service you would expect to find in a metropolitan city.

DR. J. D. HATHAWAY  
Optometrist  
Phone 999 Bradford Bldg.

## PROSPECT FOR YEAR'S EXTRA PAY

Father of The Shafer Plan Believes Soldiers and Sailors Will Win Their Demand

The fact that there are 82 bills to grant extra pay to soldiers, sailors and marines, now pending in Congress and the fact that Congressmen generally now seem to favor the granting of a year's additional pay to these discharged service men will interest the hundreds of service men and their families who read this newspaper.

The originator of the One Year Extra Pay Plan is W. B. Shafer, Jr., of Norfolk. A Norfolk correspondent gives this newspaper an account of the result of Mr. Shafer's latest visit to Washington in behalf of his measure. Our Norfolk correspondent says:—

"Mr. Shafer has just returned from Washington, where he went in the interest of the One Year Extra Pay Plan. While there he called on twenty-two Congressmen and Senators, all of whom were favorable to the Plan except one and he favored giving them farm land instead of money. Congressman Baer, who has led the fight in the House for the year's pay, suggested that they call on the "Soldier Congressman," King Swope, from Kentucky, which they did. Mr. Shafer said that the Congressman still had a plenty of fight in him even though he had discarded his soldier uniform. As soon as Swope found out Shafer's business he said, "I was elected to this office pledged to work for the extra pay movement. I have already introduced in the House, a year's pay bill, which I expect to fight for until the last ditch, if necessary. However, I don't believe the fight will be as hard as I first anticipated as most Congressmen seem to know that the majority of the people want the men to have the year's extra pay and that most of the men need it to give them a start in civilian life."

"When Mr. Shafer called at the document room and asked the clerk in charge to give him a copy of every extra pay bill he was told, 'I am sorry, my friend, but I will have to ask you to call back later as it will take me about an hour to fill that order as there are 82 bills introduced on that subject.' So he called back after an hour and was given a copy of all the bills the clerk had on hand, with the information that there were so many calls for the extra pay bills that the supply had given out on many of the most popular ones. He also stated that he had turned down any number of requests for the Baer One Year Extra Pay Bill."

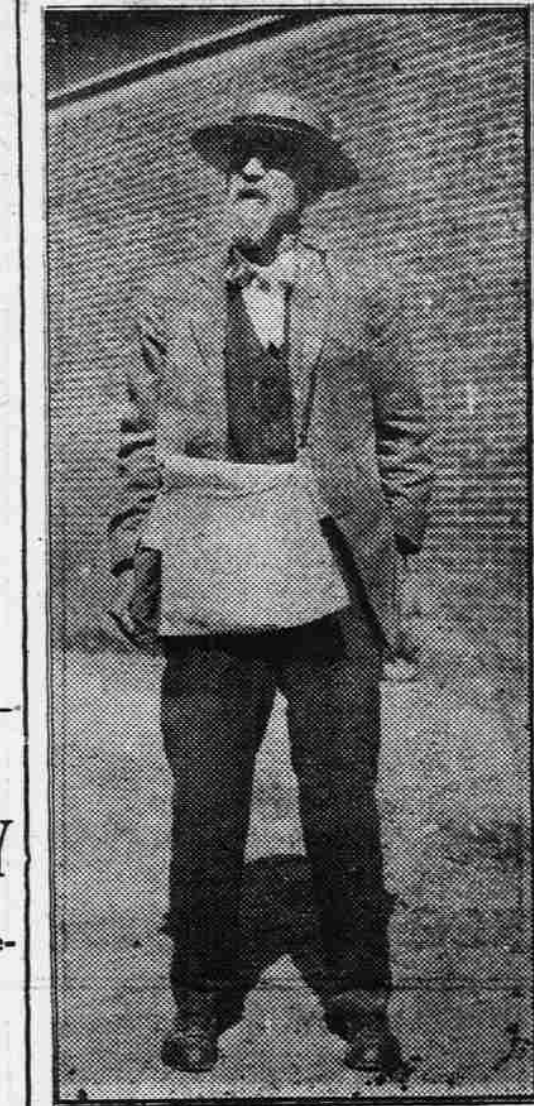
"The most marked difference of sentiment on the extra pay subject is noticed in the new bills that have been introduced since July 1st. There are twenty odd of these any of which if enacted would cost the Government from a half billion to a billion dollars more than the One Year Extra Pay Bill. On previous trips to Washington Shafer noticed that there seemed to be an organized effort to cut the extra pay down to six months pay; but that seems to have died out entirely."

"The first test of the feelings of the people on the extra pay question and which gave Congressmen the opportunity to see vividly just how things happened in a recent election in Wisconsin, where the people voted five to one in favor of the bonus or extra pay for the service men. Of course the election of Congressman King Swope from (Concluded on page 12)

## CITY'S PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM IN BAD SHAPE

Children Turned Away From Overcrowded School Rooms—And all Because We Spend Too Little For Education

SAYS COUNTY'S DOCTOR WOULD LET HIM DIE



DAVID SWAIN

DAVID SWAIN, over 70 years old, sent to the Pasquotank County Home to die more than three weeks ago, refused to die, escaped from the County Home one day last week and is now recuperating in his shanty in the wilds of Pool St. near the county jail. Everybody thought it was all up with Old Man David when he went to the County Home. He was suffering with a hideous abscess in his side which would have killed a younger man. That abscess required surgical treatment everyday until he got to the County Home and fell into the hands of the County Physician, Dr. Zenas Fearing. Swain says that after he entered the Home Dr. Fearing came to see him once, gave him the "once over," told an old Negro inmate of the Home to look out for him. "And that's the last I saw of Dr. Fearing," declares Swain. Swain says he can get better medical treatment from friendly doctors in town than from the salaried County Physician who is paid to look after such charges; which isn't a very high testimonial to the County Physician and to the Board of Commissioners who do not require him to look after the County's charges better than that. Swain is sure he would have died had he stayed in the County Home and depended upon Dr. Fearing for treatment. Dr. Wm. Peters is looking after him now and getting nothing for his services, either from Swain or from the County.

## NEW YORK PASTOR MAY SPEAK HERE

Dr. Oscar Haywood Was Interested in Saunders Bill To Abolish Death Penalty

Dr. Oscar Haywood, pastor of Collegiate Baptist Church of New York City, is expected to address a union meeting of the churches of Elizabeth City at an early date. Dr. Haywood will speak on the subject of capital punishment. He is interested in the abolition of the death penalty and is devoting much of his time to the organization of a society for the abolition of capital punishment.

Dr. Haywood is one of America's ablest preachers and will be heard with interest on any subject. He became interested in Elizabeth City because of the efforts of W. O. Saunders an Elizabeth City man, to get an anti-capital punishment bill thru the last session of the General Assembly of North Carolina. Dr. Haywood has a summer home at Mt. Gilead, N. C., and keeps in touch with North Carolina affairs. Writing to W. O. Saunders, under date of September 10, Dr. Haywood says he will come to Elizabeth City if Mr. Saunders will arrange a meeting for him.

Due to overcrowded conditions in the Elizabeth City Graded Schools, it was found necessary to send home 13 fifth grade pupils on the opening day, for whom there were neither any seats nor any place to put the seats if the latter had been available. Due to an influx of people who have come here to live in the course of the past few months, in numbers far exceeding the expectations of the school authorities—or anybody else, for that matter—the enrollment on the opening day of the Graded Schools was far greater than that expected. On the first day a total of 1258 pupils was enrolled, 529 of these being in the Primary School, 497 in the Grammar Grades and 232 in the High School. Many more will enter school later.

Supt. S. L. Sheep states that no further additions can possibly be made to the existing school buildings, and the people of this city, unless they are content to remain hopelessly behind other progressive cities of this size in North Carolina and elsewhere, may as well prepare themselves to put more money into their schools. The immediate need, says Prof. Sheep in commenting on the situation, is for the construction of a new and thoroughly modern High School building, preferably on a lot of five acres or more, so that facilities may be provided for a playground, with supervised play, such as Wilson, N. C. and many other cities the size of Elizabeth City have. The total aggregate cost of lot and building will be from \$100,000 to \$125,000, and such a plant, with the school accommodations we already have, should take care of the school needs of the growing city for ten years or more.

In briefly reviewing the present crowded conditions in the schools, Prof. Sheep states that every seat is taken in the sixth grade, the second grade is overcrowded, many of the little folks having no seats. Congested conditions also exist in the High School, and, as already stated, it was found necessary to send home 13 fifth grade pupils, for whom no room could be provided. The situation now existing demands an immediate solution.

The city tax rate for school maintenance during the past year was 50 cents per \$100 property valuation, about \$25,000 being collected. Practically all of this sum was paid in salaries to the superintendent and the teachers of the schools, the exact amount spent in this way being \$24,021.22, or an average of \$13.02 per pupil for the 1914 pupils enrolled last year. This average is 18 cents under the average for the whole State in 1917, when North Carolina was the second lowest State in the Union in per capita expenditure, the only State then spending less on schools being Mississippi.

Here are a few comparative figures from that 1917 Nation-wide school report, which is the latest available, that are interesting in this connection. At that time North Carolina spent \$13.20 for schools per pupil enrolled; Mississippi spent \$9.30, the lowest per capita of all, just one jump behind North Carolina; Virginia paid out \$22.85 per pupil; while Montana, the topmost State in amount expended per pupil, paid \$85.00, or more than six and one-half times as much as our own State. These figures speak for themselves, and while North Carolina is preparing to spend much more money for schools this year than ever before, it is doubtful if the ratio is appreciably increased. We are still far behind the really progressive States in educational matters.

Returning to local conditions, the only solution for the present overcrowded state of the city schools which can be found is by the issuance of bonds in amount sufficient to cover the cost of the proposed modern High School building, and the much-needed municipal playground under the supervision of the schools. The people should vote upon such a bond issue without delay, for the need is immediate and vital.

## NORFOLK MARKETS

Norfolk, Sept. 18, 1919

Reported especially for THE INDEPENDENT by Jarvis & Fentress. The following prices represent actual sales made to-day:

Items not quoted were not sold today and the Food Administration prohibits quotations other than actual sales.	
Eggs	53c
Hens	33c
Frying Chickens	38c
Turkeys, live	35c
Roosters, live	20c
Ducks, live	25 to 30c
New Sweet Potatoes	
Yellow Barkos	\$2.50
Nancy Halls	\$3.00